

Executive Committee
United Community Corporation
124 Branford Place
Newark, New Jersey
February 2, 1966

Present: Rabbi Jonathan J. Prinz, Vice-President, Presiding; Francis Quilan, Irving Rosenberg, Mrs. Estelle Pierce, Rev. B. F. Johnson, Miss Hilda Hidalgo, Mrs. Ceil Arons, Arthur Kaufman and Alida Giacchino for Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio, Kenneth Gibson and Mrs. Helen Hoffman for Dean C. Willard Heckel.

Staff: Cyril D. Tyson, Dr. Thomas Flagg, James H. Blair, George Moussay, Mrs. Neal Owens, Albert Alba, Dean Harrison and Mrs. Beatrice V. Easley

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD
MEETINGS:

Mr. Kirk expressed concern about attendance at the last Board of Trustees meeting where a proposal was voted down by a vote of 11-5. Mrs. Arons said the lack of attendance might be attributable to the meeting being held on a night other than the one set aside for Board meetings.

After some discussion it was the consensus that phone squads composed of Board members be set up to call other Board members reminding them of Board meetings. Mrs. Easley was instructed to make a list of those Board members who have missed three or more consecutive meetings and a committee will be formed to discuss the matter of attendance.

Rabbi Prinz then suggested that the Board of Trustees meet on the same night the membership meeting is to be held and that a sandwich supper be provided. The meeting will start at 5:00.

Miss Hidalgo suggested that since we are moving to increase membership on the Board of Trustees, particularly the poor, we should make some effort to insure attendance of these people by providing parking fees and/or transportation and baby sitters. Rabbi Prinz suggested Miss Hidalgo prepare a recommendation, in conjunction with staff, to present to the Executive Committee.

MINUTES:

Rabbi Prinz said that the minutes of the January 26 meeting were postponed for a while.

PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCT OF
MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Mr. Blair read the procedures for conduct of the membership meeting in terms of tellers, ushers, registration and checking

membership. There was consensus that the procedures as outlined should be followed. In terms of the policemen being present, Mr. Blair said he had been in touch with Director Spina's office and had been assured policemen will be regularly assigned to direct traffic, there will be radio cars in the area and if at all possible the policemen will not have their billy clubs. He said he is to get in touch with the Director's office again about the 15th of the month.

Rabbi Prins suggested Mr. Blair write a letter anyway to Director Spina expressing our concern about the number of policemen present at the last meeting and suggest that they not be armed with clubs.

MAJOR'S REPRESENTATIVES: Rabbi Prins introduced Mr. Aldo Giachino, Planning Officer for the City of Newark. The Rabbi said that Mr. Giachino will also be one of the Mayor's representatives to meetings of the Corporation in addition to Mr. Malafronte, Mr. Keulken and Mr. Wilbur Parker.

CITY STAFF: Mr. Tyson introduced Dr. Thomas Flagg, Education Director and Mr. George Moussay, Comptroller who have just joined the staff of UCC. He added that both men live in Newark.

Rabbi Prins, on behalf of the officers, welcomed the new staff members.

MEETING WITH MAYOR: Rabbi Prins said he had, with the approval of Rev. Krockel, made an appointment with the Mayor for Monday, January 31 to discuss some of the concerns expressed at the last meeting of the Executive Committee. UCC representatives attending the meeting in addition to himself were Messrs. Neitman, Still and Tyson. Also present at the meeting in addition to the Mayor were Mr. Goldfarb and Mr. Schiff. Following the meeting, Rabbi Prins said he wrote a letter to the Mayor reviewing the results of the meeting. These are outlined below:

- "1. Complete agreement on the purpose of the change in our Corporation by-laws as a means of strengthening the representation by City officials and the poor themselves in the Corporation's Board of Trustees. This change is not a matter of compromise between warring factions but rather the development toward an even greater working together on the part of those stated groups which are involved in the U.C.C. namely government, business, labor, religious, social service groups, etc., and the poor.
- "2. We further clarified the status of the proposed City commission to deal with opportunities relating to federal funds in increasing the resources necessary to solve some of the basic human resources of

our City. It is our mutual understanding that the ordinance required to set up such a commission has not yet been drawn in draft form by Mr. Schiff. It was agreed that our special committee relating to lending assistance in the preparation of such an ordinance continue its work and that upon the return of our counsel, Mr. Sidney Reitman, on February 14, a meeting be set up with him, representatives of the U.C.C., and Mr. Schiff to present any proposals which we may have and assist in drawing of the ordinance.

- "3. In light of the fact that a political campaign is upon us in Newark we shall, at our Executive Committee meeting this Wednesday, reiterate our position with regard to members of our Board of Trustees who are seeking political office. We will ask those members of the Board who are actively contemplating political campaigns or who have already announced candidacy to take the required leave of absence from the Board of Trustees. Inasmuch as a number of Board members may be making supportive statements for candidates we will ask them to make sure to do so as individuals and not as representatives of the Corporation. We will further instruct our information officer to request that our local newspapers be sensitive to the fact that Board members or officers who make statements do so as individuals and ought not be identified with U.C.C.
- "4. We agree that it is important for us to maintain open lines between the Corporation and the City government and to avoid misunderstandings. We will make every effort to inform your office of any critical announcements as we hope you will inform us prior to statements of significance relating to our Corporation. It is understood that both you and the Corporation act as independent agents. Therefore such information will be shared not on the basis of control but in the hopes of achieving a continued sense of unity and understanding."

Miss Hidalgo and Mr. Gibson pointed out that there is nothing to prevent newspapers from identifying any member of the Board as such when statements are made to the press. Rabbi Prinz said that this was understood but with the help of our public information department we may be able to get this straightened out.

After some discussion there was consensus that the resolution previously adopted by the Board regarding political activity be sent as a reminder to all Board members. It is understood, however, that some members of the Board take an active interest in political campaigns as private citizens but they should always be careful not to identify themselves as members or representatives of the Corporation.

UCC REGISTERED AGENT:

Mr. Moussay suggested that since the late Mr. Schuyler is listed as the registered agent of the Corporation, that a new agent be selected or appointed. After some discussion it was MOVED that Mr. Reitman, our legal counsel, be listed as the registered agent. The MOTION WAS SECONDED AND PASSED.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Tyson said that Mr. Wally Edgerton, Executive Director of the National Association for Community Development would be in Newark next week and he would like to invite him to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee next Wednesday to share with us the thoughts of the organization and new types of legislation pending and his perception of what will happen in Congress in terms of the anti-poverty program. It was SO MOVED AND VOTED that Mr. Edgerton be invited.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Mr. Tyson reported that Dr. Akers had sent him the budget reallocation request of the Newark Pre-School Council which will come before the Board of Trustees at its next meeting.

COPE Proposal

Rabbi Prinz said he had talked with Mr. Jackson at the Regional Office this afternoon about the COPE proposal. The Rabbi said he had told Mr. Jackson that three agencies were involved in this proposal and that it had been pending for six months. Mr. Jackson, although admitting it was a good proposal, could not give a time table for funding and added that the Regional Office could not be blamed for the delay since it had only recently gotten the proposal.

It was suggested that the sponsoring agencies contact the Governor and ask his help and also contact Congressman Krebs. It was also suggested that Mr. Kaufman ask the Mayor to call Mr. Crowley about this proposal.

Operation Medicare Alert

Mr. Tyson reported that Operation Medicare Alert had been scheduled to begin today but Washington has not given permission to the Regional Office to release the funds. He said he anticipated a telegram early next week on this.

Upward Bound

Mr. Tyson said that Mrs. Mary Hancock of Newark has been appointed to the Upward Bound Advisory Committee. Mrs. Hancock is on the Education Committee of Area Board II. (Mrs. Hancock was later introduced to members of the Executive Committee.)

Mr. Tyson added that Newark can look with pride on its accomplishments and noted that we now have representatives on Sargent Shriver's Advisory Committee, State Community Action Institute and the State Upward Bound Advisory Committee.

Blazer

Mr. Tyson reported that he had met the previous evening with Blazer Council Board to discuss with them their stewardship, made suggestions regarding their by-laws revisions and made distinction between policy making and function. He added that he is anxious to get our community action institute going so these people can be trained.

Rabbi Prinz suggested that Mr. Steinlauf arrange to have brief reports from each of the sponsoring agencies at Board of Trustees meetings, perhaps two at each meeting. He added that he would like the first report to come from the Pre-School Council. Mr. Tyson said he would also like to have reports come from all anti-poverty programs, not just those passed by our Board. He felt this kind of reporting would be better coming from the agencies themselves because Board members might have specific questions they would like to have answered.

Citizens Crusade Against Poverty

Mr. Tyson reported that the Citizens Crusade Against Poverty, a private corporation which received its initial grant from the UAW, is in the process of developing a program to train community workers and are requesting funds from the Ford Foundation to establish an institute here and on the West Coast, and to provide funds to support the workers while they are training. He said he believes this organization will be a powerful private force in organizing unaffiliated groups in the communities.

REPORT OF PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Mr. Kirk reported that the Personnel Committee had met this afternoon and decided that since 15% in fringe benefits is already included in the budget, they authorized the personnel staff to get proposals on group life insurance, major medical and retirement or pension plans for presentation to the Committee. The Committee also wondered whether it should report to the Board or the Executive Committee when they reach a decision on this.

Mr. Tyson said he felt the report, since it is not a policy decision, could be made to the Executive Committee. He added that the lack of these benefits had caused some difficulty in the hiring of staff.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES:

Mr. Tyson said that as a result of the number of proposals we now have pending in Washington he is sure we will have to make priority decisions and suggested that the Program Committee should be thinking

about this in the near future so they can make recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beatrice V. Easley
Beatrice V. Easley